Setting up of minor irrigation Department

988. SHRI MENTAY PADMANABHAM: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to set up and review a special department of Minor Irrigation"; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI V. C. SHUKLA): (a) No. Sir.

(b) The question does not arise.

Objections raised about narmada project in breadford morse report

989. SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN:
SHRI KAMAL MORARKA:

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) what are the objections raised about Narmada Project in the Breadford Morse report; and

(b) what is the reaction of Government to each of such objections?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI V. C. SHUKLA): (a) and (b) The Independent Review commissioned by the World Bank in its report has referred to some of the inadequacies on the policy measures and the implementation aspects of the rehabilitation and resettlement of the displaced/affected persons and also the environmental studies associated with the issues under the Sardar Sarovar Project. The concerned State Governments have been advised to consider these aspects and clarify the position to the Narmada Control Authority immediately. A meeting of the Narmada Control Authority has also been convened on 25th July, 1992 to consider the matter.

Erosion in Sundarban, West Bengal

990. SHRI RAMNARAYAN GOSWAMI: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) what steps Government have taken to check the Erosion of Ghoramara Island, Sagar Island, Mousumi Island and other adjoining Islands in Sundarban area in West Bengal;

(b) what is the amount of money allocated for this purpose and how much money has already been spent; and

(c) what is the future programme to check the said erosion?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI V. C. SHUKLA): (a) to (c) The State Government has executed works costing about Rs. 14 crores upto March 1992 to check erosion of the islands and other affected areas. A scheme has also been formulated by them for protection of estuaries in Sundarbans and the coastal reaches.

In addition, Calcutta Port Trust (CPT) has undertaken river tarining works in the Hoogly river and this has prevented the erosion of Ghoramara and adjoining islands. In the channel creek by the side of Mousumi and Sagar Islands extensive surveys have also been carried out by CPT to take suitable measures.

The outlay for anti-erosion works in the States Annual Plan (1992-93) is Rs. 6.4 crores and draft 8th plan is Rs. 37.91 crores. The scheme formulated by the State Government envisages construction of 180 Kms of embankment for protection of critical reaches.

Review of Irrigation project in Maharashtra

991. SHRI VISHWASRAO RAMRAO PATIL: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Central Government have sent any team to review the progress of on-going irrigation projects in Maharashtra;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the team has submitted its report;

(d) if so, the salient features thereof; and

(e) the action being taken by Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI V. C. SHUKLA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (e) Do not arise.

Clearance of upper Tunga project

992. SHRI H. HANUMANTHAPPA: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have cleared the Upper Tunga Project proposed by the Karnataka Government; and

(b) if so, what are the details of the Project?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI V. C. SHUKLA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) The modified project report submitted in February, 1992 envisages annual irrigation to 94,698 hectares at an estimated cost of Rs. 378.87 crores.

Clearance of Upper Bhadra Irrigation Project

993. SHRI H. HANUMANTHAPPA: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether any proposal of Upper Bhadra Irrigation Project has been received for clearance from Karnataka Government; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI V. C. SHUKLA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Inter Linking of Rivers

994. SHRI SUBRAMANIAN SWAMY: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have recently received any memorandum regarding linking of southern rivers; and

(b) if so, what action Government have taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI V. C. SHUKLA): (a) and (b) Suggestions and representation for and against linking of Southern rivers have been received from individuals and State Governments from time to time. The National Water Development Agency has been entrusted with the task of conducting studies and preparing feasibility reports for optimum utilisation of available waters. It has completed preliminary feasibility reports of 9 water transfer links out of 17 such links envisaged for peninsular rivers. Implementation of water transfer links depends on how soon the detailed project reports are prepared and the consensus/agreement among the basin States is reached on the detailed project reports.

Assistance by Central Water Commission for Hydro Power Projects

995. SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR SAHU: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Central Water Commission assist the Central Electricity Authority and power generation public sector companies in appraisal of projects for all major and medium hydro-power projects with emphasis on flood and water studies;